
EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes

June 1, 2004

The regular meeting of the Edgefield County Council was held at 6:00 P. M. Tuesday, June 1, 2004, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter St., Edgefield.

Members present:

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman
Norman Dorn, Councilman
Joel D. Hudson, Councilman
B. Everette Kitchens

Others present:

Wayne Adams, County Administrator
John F. Byrd, Jr., County Attorney
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council
and others as per list attached

Chairman Kneece called the meeting to order and Councilman Hudson gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to approve the May 4, 2004, Edgefield County Council Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

No comments.

Introduction of students.

Chairman Kneece, at this time, introduced the five students working with the Clemson Summer Recreation Program. The students will be in Edgefield County through July 31 holding different camps, etc. for youth and adults.

Ordinances

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 03-04-444, "An Ordinance Amending the Edgefield County Zoning Map to Change the Zoning Designation of Tax Map #144-00-00-021 from General Agricultural Development (GD) to Industrial Development (ID)." Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Kitchens, to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 03-04-445, "An Ordinance Providing for the FY 04-05 Edgefield County General Operating Budget." Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright, to approve second reading of Ordinance No. 03-04-446, "An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances for Edgefield County, South Carolina." Motion carried unanimously.

The next ordinance up for approval was Ordinance No. 03-04-447, "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance Number 97-98-363 for the Purpose of Adopting Revisions to the Edgefield County Comprehensive Plan." The administrator stated that about five years ago the county's Comprehensive Plan was adopted per Title VI of the State Code. State Law requires counties adopt a planning guide and that it be revised in a mini version every five years and in a more thorough version every ten years. Rick Green, from Upper Savannah COG, said one of the major things the Planning Commission did was when they first adopted this Comprehensive Plan Census 2000 was not out. In this revision they went back and put in the Census 2000 information. Planning Commission deleted some of the goals that had been accomplished. This new Plan is a brief overview of changes. Revising the Plan keeps the Zoning Ordinances and other ordinances related to planning up to date. A Public Hearing has to be held, with a thirty day notice. Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 03-04-447, "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance Number 97-98-363 for the Purpose of Adopting Revisions to the Edgefield County Comprehensive Plan." Motion carried unanimously.

First reading of Ordinance No. 03-04-448, "An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2004, or Such Other Appropriate Series Designation, of Edgefield County, SC, in the Principal Amount of Not Exceeding \$208,000.00." Included in this ordinance is \$125,000, the additional costs for the jail, much of which is the new roof being put on the jail and the sheriff's department and, also, for the renovations for the administration building. Both of these are included in the 2004-05 budget ordinance. Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 03-04-448. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

The following bids have been received for Grounds Maintenance for the county buildings for 2004-05:

(1)	Chem-Tech	\$ 9,870.00
(2)	Jim Dorn	10,410.00
(3)	Wesley Spires	22,440.00

The recommendation of staff was the low bidder. Through the examination of their equipment and references the administrator's office found them to be qualified to handle the contract. Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright,

to approve the low bid of \$9,870.00 submitted by Chem-Tech. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Casey, Emergency Preparedness Director, addressed Council concerning the EEOC audio visual equipment RFP. Mr. Casey gave an update as to the status of funds that have come into Edgefield County. "In 2003, Edgefield County received from SLED via the Federal Government, \$93,000 in 100% funds – no match from the county. That money was allocated mainly for a new emergency medical services two-way radio system, plus other parts of it to be used for emergency services in the county. Of that \$93,000, \$25,000 must be applied only to improvements in our Emergency Operations Center (EOC). In the 2004 grant, which is has just come out, we received approximately \$130,000.00. And, again, of that money \$19,000 was set aside for law enforcement, the rest going to emergency services and another \$25,000 was set aside specifically for EOC. There is \$50,000 that can be spent in no way other than for EOC improvements. One of the things found out after 911 was that emergency operations centers did not have sufficient equipment. My present EOC is located in the 911 center – adjacent to that is a small office that is used by attorneys to talk with prisoners, used for storage, etc. In an emergency, should I have to open it, there isn't sufficient room for all who would have to take part in an emergency.

I talked with Mr. Adams and Mr. Kneece about the council chambers being used for the EOC. There would not be any major different appearance from the day to day look. We could come in and put in an emergency generator, two-way radio system, and sufficient space for all concerned. Two of the areas we felt were of the most important to get things started (this goes to the bid that we have gone out for) is to put in plasma screen TV. This would be tied into cable TV to pick up the Weather Channel and CNN, but would also have the capability and, as part of this money we propose to spend, we would be able to install VHS and DVD equipment so if for some reason Council had a presentation they could do it over DVD. It isn't anything that can only be used only in emergency and only under the umbrella of the EOC. EOC has to buy it and EOC has to justify it. The State has to approve it, which has been done. Also they have to approve the monies. Several companies did get bid packages but only one turned in a bid, that being Gattis Audio. The bid is \$12, 998.85. These monies will be taken from the \$50,000; will take another \$12,000 to install underground cable to run to the dispatch center to tie in two-way radios in the chambers. The other \$25,000 will go to an 80kw diesel generator which will be sitting outside with an automatic transfer switch so that anytime power should fail the generator starts, automatically goes on line. There will be an extended service contract on the generator.

We hope with the 2004 grant we can bring in an additional hurst tools (jaws of life) to put on fire trucks. Hope to purchase automatic external defibrillators. First responders will be trained to use the hurst tools and defibrillators. The software packages will be ordered through Emergency Preparedness, one being Hurivac (hurricane evacuation). It helps with the control of your assets and data, etc. Another package is IRIS where you can find out what resources are available throughout South Carolina. I went to Columbia last Thursday and received two 800 megahertz trunking radios – absolutely free – part of a grant. One will go in the 911 center and one will go in the chambers EOC. The first

year's subscription fee is also paid for in this grant. Each county director got two. Eight hundred trunking is the area that all of the emergency services providers feel like is the way to go to have redundancy should that radio system we use over there fail for any reason – you would have another source of communication.

The motion to approve Gattis Audio's bid of \$12,998.85 was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright. Motion carried unanimously.

Howard Gibson, Building/Road Department, asked Council to consider placing speed limit signs of 25 mph on Towns Road and McKie Road. These dirt roads are located off of Martintown Road, about a mile from the interstate. The roads are narrow and have not been successful in obtaining right-of-way to do anything there. Mr. Gibson said he had traveled the roads and anything over 25 he felt was dangerous. Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to make the speed limit on both roads 25 mph. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gibson also gave an update on Fox Terrace. He stated that he had met with the engineers, Haas and Hilderbrand, and they gave him a little data – no charge to the county so far. It is Mr. Gibson's understanding that if easement can be obtained for drainage there is a way that it can be taken care of without any major problem. He is working on this but, like Haas and Hilderbrand, Howard suggests that until the easements are obtained really no need to spend money on engineering services.

Mr. Adams spoke on the compensation/classification salary study proposals. He stated that ten (10) firms submitted proposals to do the study for all positions in the county. Of those ten firms, only four came in under the council's budgeted amount of \$20,000 for FY 2004-05. Staff rated these four firms on four different categories: (1) Qualifications of the firm that performed the study based on similar experience - maximum of 40 points; (2) Responsiveness to the section of request for proposals entitled "scope of contract" – maximum of 25 points; (3) Details of the approach and methodology to be utilized in fulfillment of the contracted obligation - maximum of 20 points; (4) Reasonableness of the cost of the study – 15 points. Of the maximum of 200 points, the Archer Company received 192 points at a proposed price \$16,553.00. One of the main considerations about Archer was its similar experiences. They have recently completed class and comp studies for Lexington County and Aiken County, and they are currently working with the City of North Augusta. They know the area and the market and the types of positions we have. Staff recommends the Archer Company. This was a request for proposals, and in the proposal package it was stated that the county would consider things other than price. Of course, the most significant of these was the ability to perform the study based on similar experience. The Archer Company scored highest there, principally because of their experience in Aiken, Lexington and North Augusta. They have highly qualified professionals. This firm is from Rock Hill and they are well regarded throughout the state. One of the firms having a lower bid is from Scottsdale, Az, and another firm from Dunwoody, Ga. Councilman Hudson discussed the fact that the firm from Scottsdale is \$4,000 less and why not take that firm. Mr. Adams explained that price had been given consideration at two levels. First, no firm quoting prices above

\$20,000 were considered. Second, prices were assigned points under criterion number 4. Councilman Dorn made a motion to accept this as information and bring back at the next meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Hudson. Motion carried unanimously.

GUESTS

Mr. Warren Hamilton, Trenton, addressed council concerning paving of Girl Scout Camp Road. His property abuts this road. Mr. Hamilton, representing the Lake Trenton Homeowners Property Association, stated he would like to make the request that consideration be given to the paving of Girl Scout Camp Road for two purposes: (1) Preserve the safety and the health and welfare of the children riding the school buses (2) Preserve the health, safety, and welfare of all of the other citizens of the county and state using the road. Howard Gibson said that the Transportation Committee has been addressing this from time to time and, of course like other roads, right-of-way is a problem. He said he talked with a gentlemen prior the meeting that feels he may be able to get a couple of the problem areas solved, and if so, Mr. Gibson said he feels it would be a good time for the Transportation Committee to approve paving at least from Airport Road through to Girl Scout. It is very favorable allowing funds to do this if the right-of-way can be obtained. Councilman Hudson asked about the traffic on that road and Howard stated there are at least three different school buses every day and Lake Trenton is rather heavily populated. Every week or so we have a motor grader there doing some work. Mr. Hamilton said the homeowners association would certainly work on the right-of-way situation.

Mr. Adams, at time, recognized his parents, Gloria and Ron Adams; former Councilwoman Kitchens; our Chief Magistrate, Davis Parkman, and Eddie Feagin, shop supervisor and his wife, Lois, as being in attendance.

Ms. Essie Nicholson and Ms. Carolyn Waldo have formed a support group that has been working for a couple of years; it is called Women in Unity. This is a group that helps not only women but men and children in forming family unity. We help them learn how to do things they can benefit from. Youth packages are available to motivate youth how to work at a job, if it just raking yards – just trying to prepare them for family life, to help themselves. Councilman Dorn said he did not feel Ms. Nicholson was really asking for money but maybe some assistance. He asked council to consider this as information for the present.

Ms. Waldo stated she is a teacher in the local school system. She tutors children after school and working with the Women in Unity which involves many children and they do not have a facility to accommodate everyone. Council suggested GLEAMS in Trenton. Mr. Dorn and Mr. Bright will check on some places and bring the information back to council.

Executive Session

Pursuant to Code Section § 30-4-70 (a) (1), Council entertained a motion by Councilman Bright, to convene in executive session to discuss a personnel matter, and return to regular session at the discretion of the chairman. The motion was seconded by

Councilman Hudson. Motion carried unanimously.

Returning to regular session, Councilman Kitchens made the motion to accept the administrator's new contract as written. Motion seconded by Councilman Bright. Motion carried unanimously.

Claims approved as follows:

A.	PAYROLL:	4/26/04 thru 5/09/04	
	Regular.....		\$110,833.87
	PAYROLL:	5/10/04 thru 5/23/04	
	Regular.....		\$108,755.16
B.	GENERAL OPERATING.....		\$766,655.32

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned, with the next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 6, 2004.

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

Norman Dorn, Councilman

Joel D. Hudson, Councilman

B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

ATTEST

Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

